B. *Amendments to the claims*:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Presently amended) A method of <u>synchronizing data</u> ~~synchronization for use~~ in a distributed data processing system ~~comprising: at least one legacy computer having means for storing~~ ~~a master version of data, a first non-legacy computer having~~ ~~means for supporting synchronization, and a second non-legacy~~ ~~computer having means for storing a copy of said master version~~ ~~of data and means for executing at least one operation on said~~ ~~copy, said method~~ comprising the steps of:

<u>storing a master data in at least one legacy computer</u> <u>system;</u>

<u>enabling a first non-legacy computer to support</u> <u>synchronization;</u>

<u>storing a copy of the master data in a second non-legacy</u> <u>computer;</u>

executing, by said second non-legacy computer, ~~said~~ at least one operation on said copy <u>of the master data</u>[[,]]<u>;</u>

sending, by said second non-legacy computer, said at least one operation to said first non-legacy computer[[,]]<u>;</u>

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executing, by said first non-legacy computer, said at least one operation on said master ~~version~~ data at said at least one legacy computer[[,]];

determining if said executing step <u>by said first non-legacy computer</u> is successful[[,]]; and

in response to a successful executing step <u>by said first non-legacy computer</u>, synchronizing said master ~~version~~ data by applying said at least one operation.

2.   (Presently amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method ~~as claimed~~ in claim 1, further comprising the step of [[:]] sending, by the second non-legacy computer, a synchronization protocol to the first non-legacy computer.

3.   (Presently amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method ~~as claimed~~ in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein said at least one operation <u>further</u> comprises ~~two or more~~ at least two operations ~~and said operations~~ <u>which</u> are executed by said first non-legacy computer sequentially.

4.   (Presently amended) [[A]] The method ~~as claimed in any preceding~~ in claim 1, ~~further comprising the step of sending, by said first non-legacy computer, the results from said executing said at least one operation on said master version step and a new copy of the master version of data.~~ <u>wherein the executing, by said first non-legacy computer further comprises:</u>

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sending by said first non-legacy computer the results from said at least one operation, to said second non-legacy computer; and

sending by said first non-legacy computer a new copy of the master data, to said second non-legacy computer.

5.   (Presently amended) [[A]] The method ~~as claimed~~ in claim 1, ~~wherein in response to an unsuccessful executing step, the master version is not synchronized.~~ further comprises:

responsive to determining if said executing step by said first non-legacy computer is unsuccessful, not synchronizing the master data.

6.   (Presently amended) A distributed data processing system for synchronizing data ~~synchronization comprising: at least one legacy computer having means for storing a master version of data, a first non-legacy computer having means for supporting synchronization, and a second non-legacy computer having means for storing a copy of said master version of data and means for executing at least one operation on said copy, said system further~~ comprising:

means for storing a master data in at least one legacy computer system;

means for enabling a first non-legacy computer to support synchronization;

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   means for storing a copy of the master data in a second
non-legacy computer;

   means for executing, by said second non-legacy computer,
said at least one operation on said copy of the master
data[[,]];

   means for sending, by said second non-legacy computer, said
at least one operation to said first non-legacy computer[[,]];

   means for executing, by said first non-legacy computer,
said at least one operation on said master version data at said
at least one legacy computer[[,]];

   means for determining if said executing step by said first
non-legacy computer is successful[[,]]; and

   means, responsive to successful determination by said first
non-legacy computer, for synchronizing said master version by
applying said at least one operation.

7.   (Presently amended) [[A]] The system as claimed in claim 6,
further comprising[[:]] means for sending, by the second non-
legacy computer, a synchronization protocol to the first non-
legacy computer.

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8.   (Presently amended) [[A]] The system ~~as claimed~~ in claim 6 ~~or claim 7~~, wherein said at least one operation further comprises ~~two or more~~ at least two operations ~~and said operations~~ which are executed by said first non-legacy computer sequentially.

9.   (Presently amended) [[A]] The system ~~as claimed in any of~~ in claim[[s]] 6 [[to 8]], ~~further comprising means for sending, by said first non-legacy computer, the results from said means for executing said at least one operation on said master-version and a new copy of the master version of data.~~ wherein the means for executing, by said first non-legacy computer further comprises:

    means for sending by said first non-legacy computer the results from said at least one operation, to said second non-legacy computer; and

    means for sending by said first non-legacy computer a new copy of the master data, to said second non-legacy computer.

10.   (Presently amended) [[A]] The system ~~as claimed~~ in claim 6, ~~wherein in response to an unsuccessful determination, the master version is not synchronized.~~ further comprises:

    means responsive to determining if said executing step by said first non-legacy computer is unsuccessful, not synchronizing the master data.

11.   (Presently amended) A computer program ~~comprising computer program~~ code means adapted to ~~perform~~ <u>synchronize data, comprising:</u> ~~all the steps of claims 1 to 5 when said program is run on a computer.~~

computer program code means for storing a master data in at least one legacy computer system;

computer program code means for enabling a first non-legacy computer to support synchronization;

computer program code means for storing a copy of the master data in a second non-legacy computer;

computer program code means for executing, by said second non-legacy computer, at least one operation on said copy of the master data;

computer program code means for sending, by said second non-legacy computer, said at least one operation to said first non-legacy computer;

computer program code means for executing, by said first non-legacy computer, said at least one operation on said master data at said at least one legacy computer;

computer program code means for determining if said executing step by said first non-legacy computer is successful; and

computer program code means for in response to a successful executing step by said first non-legacy computer, synchronizing said master data by applying said at least one operation.

12.   (New) The computer program code means in claim 11, further comprising computer program code means for sending, by the second non-legacy computer, a synchronization protocol to the first non-legacy computer.

13.   (New) The computer program code means in claim 11, wherein said computer program code means for at least one operation further comprises at least two operations which are executed by said first non-legacy computer sequentially.

14.   (New) The computer program code means in claim 11, wherein the computer program code means for executing, by said first non-legacy computer further comprises:

computer program code means for sending by said first non-legacy computer the results from said at least one operation, to said second non-legacy computer; and

computer program code means for sending by said first non-legacy computer a new copy of the master data, to said second non-legacy computer.

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15.   (New) The computer program code means in claim 11, further comprises:

computer program code means responsive to determining if said executing step by said first non-legacy computer is unsuccessful, not synchronizing the master data.